April 2010

HF Happenings 403

ZS3 Sprint, Sunday 2 May
SARL 85 Anniversary Sprint, Sunday 16 May
ZS4 Sprint, Sunday 23 May

SARL 85th Anniversary Sprint

The objective of the contest is to celebrate the 85th Anniversary of the founding of SARL. The contest is open to all licensed radio amateurs in Southern Africa. The contest will take place from 12:00 UTC until 15:00 UTC (14:00 to 17:00 CAT) on Sunday 16 May 2010.

Frequencies and Modes – 80 m CW 3 510 – 3 560 kHz, Phone: 3 603 – 3 650 kHz and 3 700 to 3 800 kHz; 40 m CW 7 000 – 7 025 kHz, Phone 7 060 – 7 100 kHz and 7 130 – 7 200 kHz; 20 m CW 14 000 – 14 060 kHz, Phone 14 225 – 14 350 kHz (ZR access). A station may be worked once on each mode per band. Stations can change modes at any time DX QSOs will be allowed Cross-band or cross-mode operation is not permitted.

All categories allowed - Single or Multi operator, Fixed, Field or Mobile stations. Maximum power allowed 100 watt PEP output or less.

The exchange for SARL councillors and ex SARL councillors is RS(T) and C (Councillor) or R (Raadslid). For all other participants - RS(T).

Scoring. Contact with non-councillor = 1 point; Contact with councillor / ex councillor = 3 points; Contact with ZS85SARL= 10 points. Claimed score = Total of all QSO points + number of councillors worked.

Prizes and Certificates. First place: ARRL Handbook and certificate; Second and Third places: Basic Antennas and certificate; Highest score Participants under 18 ARRL Handbook and certificate. All received log with 10 or more contacts will go into the draw for an ARRL Handbook.

Logheets shall be submitted within 15 days after the contest and must be sent to the West Rand Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 5344, Weltevredenpark, 1725 or by e-mail to glevey[at]gmail[dot]com. Closing date for log submissions is 31 May 2010.

Too Much Of a Good Thing

Ward, NØAX, The ARRL Contest Update

Communication - we are all about communication in amateur radio and contests stress communications skills, so how could there be too much communication? When communication before the contest starts taking the place of communication during the contest that is too much communication!

Contests set up limits and rules to exercise specific types of communication activity. There are limits on bands and modes of operation. Participants are required to exchange specific information. There are rules about permitted types of operating. All of these set up a certain type of game, just like in athletics. And just like in athletic events, the game is conducted between specific times or over a specific duration.

We all accept that for athletic events, communication about the conduct of the game outside the time limits for the game is very strictly trolled. For example, the history of a participant's performance may be

cussed at length, but discussing the specifics of how a participant will play during an event, except in broad strategic terms, is not allowed. After the event, the conduct of the game is again open to be discussed at length, of course.

It would be absurd for a baseball pitcher to tell the hitters before the game, "You already know I have a fastball, sinker and change-up. I am going to throw the fastball in the second inning, the change-up in the third, and the sinker in the fourth. Enjoy!" It would spoil the game because it removes elements of strategy and skill from the competition.

Yet before a ham radio contest, I find this sort of information being exchanged regularly in the form of pre-contest schedules. Before continuing, I am going to let the VHF+ contest community off the hook on this issue. There is a lot of discussion about technological reasons for VHF+ contesters to consider schedules acceptable. Pre-contest schedules may be an open issue on VHF+, but it has long been decided on HF that they diminish the quality of the event and should not be made.

The ARRL's "HF Contesting - Good Practices, Interpretations & Suggestions" - a white paper on contest operating practices - is clear: "if by announcing your information, another contester can tune to a specific frequency at a specific time and work you", that's over the line. For example, it is fine for someone operating in a state QSO party to let everybody know that they will be driving through a list of counties and even give a general idea of the route and the order in which the counties will be activated. That increases interest and participation in the contest - go for it! However, when the information expands the detail to "NØAX will be in County X at time Y on frequency Z," that's a pre-contest schedule – do not do it.

There is an exception to the no-schedule rule - schedules made *during* the contest and using the allowed contest bands and modes are acceptable. For example, during the contest it is OK to say, "I'm headed for Podunk County and should be on from there at 03:00 on 3 830 kHz." You are using the bands and modes the contest is designed to exercise. But before the contest? Unacceptable. Similarly, do not use Internet chat rooms or spotting networks to distribute the information while the contest is underway - those are outside the required bands and modes, and is considered self-spotting.

There is a fine line between what is acceptable and what is not - the circumstances may not always be entirely clear - and our enthusiasm and competitiveness can lead us over it. If you're not sure about something, start by reading and understanding the contest rules - all of them. You can ask an experienced contester or two. The discussion will help you understand what practices are good and bad and why. The HF Guidelines mentioned above touch on many ethical

April 2010
ZS10WCS operated by the Northern Cape ARC

22 Lyrids meteor shower, 21:07 CAT
23 Africa Malaria Day
23/24 SARL National Convention, Port Elizabeth
26 School holiday
27 Freedom Day

May 2010
ZS10WCS operated by the Rietkol ARC

1 Worker's Day; May Day / Labour Day - Namibia
2 ZS3Sprint
3 Closing date Autumn QRP logs
8 PIC Course, Cape Town; AWA Valve AM QSO Party; Mills on the Air; World Red Cross Day
9 Mother's Day; AWA Valve AM QSO Party; Mills on the Air
12 International Nurses Day
13 Ascension Day - Namibia
14/16 Dayton Hamvention
16 SARL 85 Contest
17 World Telecommunications Day; Closing date ZS3 logs
23 ZS4 Sprint
24 Closing date AWA Valve logs
25 Africa Day – Namibia
26 SARL Club CW Contest
28/30 WIA Centenary weekend
29 RTA, Durban; CQ WW WPX CW
30 CQ WW WPX CW; Comrades Marathon
31 World No Tobacco Day

"In the arena of human life, the honours and rewards fall to those who show their good qualities in action." Aristotle

points of contesting. As you spend more and more time contesting, evaluating behaviour and deciding what is and isn't across that line, you'll develop a sense for when that quiet voice is whispering, "Too much".

Operating Tip

A couple of reasonable questions about contests beginning and ending are answered in this week's tip.

Question one - "Can I call CQ before the start of the contest or do I have to wait until 00:00 UTC?" You can call CQ all you want at any time, but if you call CQ TEST, meaning that you are soliciting contest QSOs, that has to take place after the contest starts.

Question two - "Can I log a QSO that started during the contest but finished after the contest's ending time?" Assuming your PC clock is perfectly synchronised, the time at which you complete the QSO's over-the-air transmissions must be within the contest period. Summarizing - your over-the-air contest activity (including receiving) can only take place from the starting whistle to the ending whistle. [The ARRL Contest Update]

Mills on the Air Weekend

During the weekend of 8 and 9 May, radio amateurs will be will be setting up stations in windmills and watermills all over the UK.

I can remember some years ago when this event had an international flavour and Mostert's Mill in Cape Town was activated.

Mills in South Africa? Yes, there are many. Some I can think of - at Bathurst in the Eastern Cape (not too far from the Pig and Whistle). Near the Newbury Dam, Tweespruit, Eastern Free State, is an old water mill. In the Rustenburg area are one or two. Lesotho also has a couple. Cradock has one, in the Western Cape there are a number. In the Upington, Keimos, Kakamas areas as well. Moreover, I am sure you know of some as well.
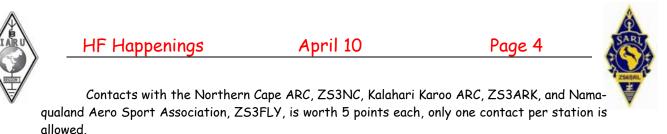
WorkedGrids software

WorkedGrids is a freeware Windows application that displays a map showing Amateur Radio grid squares contacted and logged using a third-party logging programme.

It was developed by Bertrand Zauhar, VE2ZAZ, and uses colours to display information on a per-band basis and up to four bands can be displayed concurrently. For its input, the programme reads the plain text (ASCII) log files generated by most logging programs. The file is read at a set interval, the worked grid squares on the map are updated in a dynamic way as the contest progresses and the log file is periodically saved. WorkedGrids can be downloaded from http://www.ve2zaz.net/WorkedGrids/WorkedGrids.htm

ZS3 Sprint

The annual ZS3 Sprint takes place on Sunday 2 May from 14:00 to 15:00 UTC. This is a fun activity to promote contacts between radio amateurs in the Northern Cape and radio amateurs in Southern African countries. It is a phone and CW contest on the 40-metre band, CW - 7,000 - 7,025; phone - 7,060 - 7,100 and 7,120 - 7,200 MHz. The exchange is a RS(T) report and provincial or country abbreviation.

Scoring for ZS3. contacts with stations in ZS3 are worth 1 point. Contacts with stations in other ZS call areas or Southern African countries are worth 2 points. Scoring for other call areas. Contacts with stations in ZS3 are worth 2 points. Contacts with stations in own or other ZS call areas (excluding ZS3) or Southern African countries are worth 1 point.

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Contacts with the Northern Cape ARC, ZS3NC, Kalahari Karoo ARC, ZS3ARK, and Namaqualand Aero Sport Association, ZS3FLY, is worth 5 points each, only one contact per station is allowed.

Log sheets shall be submitted within 15 days after the contest and can be sent by e-mail to zs3tg[at]vodamail[dot]co[dot]za or ZS3 Sprint, PO Box 1049, Kathu, 8446. The closing date for log submissions is 17 May 2010. A certificate will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in the competition.

The Antique Wireless Association Valve QSO party

The Antique Wireless Association Valve QSO party will be held over the weekend of 8 and 9 May. The AM QSO Party takes place on Saturday 08 May and The SSB QSO Party on Sunday 09 May. The QSO Party runs from 15:00 to 19:00 CAT on both days.

The following frequencies on 40 and 80 metres may be used – 40 m 7 053 to 7 100 kHz and 80 m 3 603 to 3 650 kHz. The exchange is call sign, RS and a consecutive serial number starting at 001, and the type of radio used, eg HT37 Tx.

Scoring - all valve radio - 3 points per contact; Hybrid (valve and solid state) - 2 points per contact and Solid State Radio - 1 point per contact.

Log submissions must be sent to The Southern African Antique Wireless Association, PO Box 12320, Benoryn, 1504, or by e-mail to andy[dot]cairns[at]xsinet[dot]co[dot]za. The closing date for logs is 28 May 2010. Certificates will be awarded to the 3 top places in each category.

ILLW on Facebook

The International Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend (ILLW) is a popular annual Amateur Radio event and it now has its own Facebook page. The page can be seen at http://www.facebook.com/pages/ILLW/108422039190274
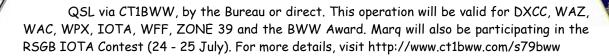
Last year an all time record 442 stations from 50 countries registered for the event. This year the 14th ILLW takes place on August 21-22 and further details can be found at http://illw.net/. Videos from previous years can be seen at http://illw.net/illw_videos.htm

African DX

South Africa, ZS, and Botswana, A25. Les, W2LPL, and his son Daniel, W2DBL, will be active as ZS6/homecall from South Africa between 11 and 15 August. Activity will be on the HF bands, mainly SSB. They will also be active as A25/homecall from the Tuli Bloc, Botswana, between 16 and 19 August. Activity will be the same as above. QSL via their home call signs (QRZ.com address).

Seychelles, S7 (AF-024). Marq, CT1BWW, has announced that he will be active as S79BWW from the Anse National Park (WFF SEY-004) between 17 and 31 July. His QTH will be the Chalets d'Anse Forbans, Pirates Bay, island of Mahe (AF-024, WW Loc. LI75SF), Seychelles. He states that the main purpose of this activity is to be the first official WFF (World Flora Fauna) DXpedition on Seychelles - reference number WFF004. Activity will be on 80 - 6 metres (operating split) using CW, SSB and RTTY. Suggested frequencies are CW - 3507/3527, 7050/7055, 10117/10119, 14006/14054, 18084, 21021/21054, 24897 and 28007/28027; SSB - 7060 (listen above 7200 for NA), 14145/14260, 18140, 21260 and 28477; RTTY - 10137, 14080, 21080 and 24977 kHz. He is using Kenwood TS480s, with a vertical Force 12 XK40 and some wire hardware.

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QSL via CT1BWW, by the Bureau or direct. This operation will be valid for DXCC, WAZ, WAC, WPX, IOTA, WFF, ZONE 39 and the BWW Award. Marq will also be participating in the RSGB IOTA Contest (24 - 25 July). For more details, visit http://www.ct1bww.com/s79bww

Seychelles, S7. Vlad, RA9LR is active as S79LR from Desroches, IOTA AF-033, until 7 May and then from Mahe, IOTA AF-024, from 8 to 10 May. Activity is mainly on the low bands using CW, RTTY and PSK63 with some SSB. This includes being an entry in the ARI International Contest, and the upcoming Alessandro Volta RTTY DX and CQ-Mir International DX Contests. QSL via operator's instructions.

Central African Republic, TL. Jan, DJ8NK, informs that Paul, F6EXV, and he will be active as guest operators from Christian's, TL0A, station between 13 and 26 May. They plan to have two stations on the air simultaneously. Look for Jan to focus his activities on RTTY, while Paul will be on CW. Chris will continue his SSB operation and CW/RTTY from time to time after 26 May. Bands of activity will be on 40 - 6 metres, maybe some 160 and 80 m (it is late in the season for the low bands, plus it is the rainy season in TL with daily storms). Operators will use standard DX frequencies, and always run "SPLIT."

Please Note. THE QSL INFO! QSL direct to the QRZ.com TL0A address. "Neither Jan, nor Paul, will be able to confirm any contact. So we repeat, QSL ONLY via TL0A. Jan and Paul also mention, "We are unlikely to have internet access from the station. There will be no online log. This operation could not have taken place without Christian's full support, help and cooperation. We already want to thank him a lot for making this possible. So see you from the Central African Republic."

Also mentioned, "Chris, TL0A, should definitively leave the Central African Republic in July 2010 and probably return over to Niger (5U5U) next September."

Sudan, ST. Robert, S53R is active as ST2AR from Khartoum until the summer of 2011 and is now active on 6 meters. QSL to home call.

Chad, TT. Phil, F4EGS is active as TT8PK and has been active on 15 metres using CW around 14:00 UTC and 20 metres SSB around 17:00 UTC. QSL to home call.

Madagascar, 5R. Michele, 5R8UI has been active on 15 metres using SSB around 16:00 to 17:00 UTC. QSL via IZ8CCW.

Madeira Island, Operators Diethelm, DJ2YE, Norbert, DJ7JC, Dieter, DJ8DS, Ulrich, DJ9IE, Detlef, DK3QZ, Hans, DL1XW, Kai, DL3HAH, Joerg, DL3QQ and Wil, PA0BWL, will be active as CT3/home call from Santana, Madeira Island (AF-014, DIP MA-001, WLOTA LH-0053, WW Loc. IM12NT), on 25 - 29 May 2010. They will also participate in the CQ WW WPX CW Contest (29 - 30 May) as CQ3L, a Multi-? entry. QSL CQ3L via DJ6QT, direct or bureau. QSL others via their home calls, bureau preferred.

Special Event Stations

Venezuela, 4M200/YV200/YW200. Look for several different stations to be active until 31 December, to celebrate the 200th anniversary of Venezuela's Independence.
Some of the stations that have been active are:
4M200AJ - Operator Manuel; Activity mainly on PSK on 40, 30, 20, 15 and 10 m; QSL via YV5AJ
YV200D - Operator Paolo; Activity mainly on RTTY on 30 m; QSL via YV1DIG

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YW200A - Operator Alfredo; Activity on PSK and SSB on 20 and 15 m; QSL via YV5SSF
YW200ER - Operator Elvis; Activity on SSB on 40/20/15m; QSL via YV8ER
YW200L - Operator Frank; Activity on RTTY and PSK, on 30/15m; QSL via YV5LI
YW200T - Operator Juan; Activity on SSB, RTTY and PSK, on 40/30/20/15m; QSL via YV5JBI

A "Bicentenary of Venezuelan Independence Award" is available by working all the 6 special call signs 4M200AJ, YV200D, YW200A, YW200ER, YW200L and YW200T. More information is available at http://www.radioclubvenezolano.org/concurso.htm

France, TM24. Look for TM24H to be active between 30 May and 13 June, to celebrate the 78th edition of the "Le Mans 24 Hours" car race. Activity will be on the HF, VHF and 50 MHz bands using CW, SSB, PSK and RTTY modes. A special QSL card will be printed. The QSL Manager is F6KFI. Look at the interesting collection of QSL cards for this event at http://pagesperso-orange.fr/bruno.martineau/radio/24h00.htm

Australia. Special call sign VK100WIA will be operated from 1 May to 31 October 2010 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Wireless Institute of Australia. All of the QSOs will be confirmed automatically via the bureau. Direct cards with return postage may be sent to the Wireless Institute of Australia, P.O. Box 2042, Bayswater VIC 3153, Australia. Details on the centenary programme and the relevant operating award can be found on the WIA website at www.wia.org.au/.

Taiwan. Look for special event stations 3H100TW, 3T100TW and 3T0TW to be active from Taipei, Taiwan (AS-020, WLOTA LH-0022), between 1 May and 31 December 2010, to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Republic of China (Taiwan). QSL all three call signs via the bureau.

Austria. The Vienna International Centre Amateur Radio Club, 4U1VIC, will activate special event call sign, 4U10NPT, between 1 and 31 May 2010 to promote the 2010 Review Conference of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT). QSL via OE1ZKC. For DXCC or other award purposes, it shall be counted as same as 4U1VIC. For the details of the conference, please refer to the following address www.un.org/en/conf/npt/2010/

Birthday of Samuel Morse

Samuel Morse, who introduced telegraph communications in the United States, was born 219 years ago on 27 April 1791 in Charlestown, Massachusetts. On 24 May 1844, he famously sent the message *"What hath God wrought"* (quoting Numbers 23:23) by telegraph from Washington, DC to Baltimore.

The telegraph Morse code used in those days differed in a number of respects from the International Morse code used today and a description of the differences can be found at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/American_Morse_code

Club News

The John Vorster Technological Secondary School Radio Club, ZS6JVT, will have a flea market stating at 08:30 CAT on Saturday 8 May 2010. The Club can be found at 1072 Meyer Street, Rietfontein, Pretoria.

Contest Calendar

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This week's contests compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 27 April to 5 May 2010.

NCCC Sprint Ladder
02:30 - 03:00 UTC 30 April
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40 and 20 m
Classes: Single Op
Max power: 100 watts
Exchange: (see rules)
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station
Multipliers: Each US state (including KL7 and KH6) once per band; Each VE province once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 2 May 2010
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at:
http://www.hornucopia.com/3830score/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html

MARAC CW QSO Party
00:00 UTC 1 May to 23:59 UTC 2 May
Mode: CW
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m
Classes: Fixed; Mobile; Mixed
Exchange: RST, state, county or "DX"
Work stations: Once per county per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with fixed station; 15 points per QSO with US county station; 5 points per QSO with DX station
Multipliers: each US County once
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 31 May 2010
E-mail logs to: ka3qlf[at]comcast[dot]net
Mail logs to: MARAC Contest, 2063 N. Turnpike Rd., Dalton, PA 18414, USA
Find rules at: http://marac.org/cwrules.htm

MARAC SSB QSO Party
00:00 UTC 1 May to 23:59 UTC 2 May

Mode: SSB
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m
Classes: Fixed; Mobile Op; Mixed
Exchange: W: RS, county or state; non-W: RS and province or country
Work stations: Once per county per band
QSO Points: Fixed: 1 point per QSO with fixed station
Mobile: 2 points per QSO with fixed station; 15 points per QSO with US county station; 5 points per QSO with DX station
Bonus Points: (see rules)
Multipliers: each US county once
Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults) and bonus points
Submit logs by: 31 May 2010
E-mail logs to: ka3qlf[at]comcast[dot]net
Mail logs to: MARAC Contest, 2063 N. Turnpike Rd., Dalton, PA 18414, USA
Find rules at: http://marac.org/ssbrules.htm

10-10 International Spring Digital Contest
00:01 UTC 1 May to 23:59 UTC 2 May
Mode: Digital
Bands: 10 m Only
Classes: Individual; Club; QRP
Max power: non-QRP: >5 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: Name, state, province or country and 10-10 number
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with a non-member; 2 points per QSO with a 10-10 member
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 17 May 2010
E-mail logs to:
tentencontest[at]roadrunner[dot]com
Mail logs to: Dan Morris, KZ3T, 131 Valencia Lane, Statesville, NC 28625, USA
Find rules at:
http://www.ten-ten.org/Forms/QSOPartyRulesRevised.pdf

7th Call Area QSO Party
13:00 UTC 1 May to 07:00 UTC 2 May

"In the arena of human life, the honours and rewards fall to those who show their good qualities in action." Aristotle

Mode: CW, Phone, Digital
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 and 2 m
Classes: Single Op – CW, Phone, Digital or mixed – QRP, Low or High: Multi-Single – QRP, Low or High: Multi-Multi: County Expedition: Mobile – CW, Phone, Digital or mixed – QRP, Low or High
Max power: HP: >150 watts; LP: 150 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: 7th Area: RS(T) and 5-letter state/county code; non-7th Area: RS(T) and (state/province/DX)
Work stations: Once per band per mode per county
QSO Points: 2 points per SSB QSO; 3 points per CW/Digital QSO
Multipliers: 7th Area: Each state or province once; 7th Area: Each DXCC entity once (max of 10); non-7th Area: Each 7th area county once
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 5 June 2010
E-mail logs to: 7qplogs[at]codxc[dot]org
Mail logs to: 7th Call Area QSO Party, c/o CODXC, 61255 Ferguson Rd, Bend, OR 97702, USA
Find rules at:
http://www.codxc.com/new/Page.asp?Content=DRYLAND7S&Page=3

AGCW QRP/QRP Party
13:00 - 19:00 UTC 1 May
Mode: CW
Bands: 80 and 40 m
Classes: 5 W (A); 10 W (B)
Exchange: RST, QSO no, "/" and Class ID (A/B)
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with class B
2 points per QSO with class A
Multipliers: DXCC countries once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: May 31, 2010
E-mail logs to: qrp-party[at]agcw[dot]de
Mail logs to: Manager, Jo (Juergen) Mertens, DJ4EY, Am Muehlenbruch 32, D-59581 Warstein, Germany

Find rules at:
http://www.agcw.org/en/?Contests:QRP-QRP-Party

Indiana QSO Party
16:00 UTC 1 May to 04:00 UTC 2 May
Mode: Phone, CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m
Classes: Single Op – High, Low or QRP; Multi-Op; Mobile; Portable; Rover
Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: IN: RS(T) and county; non-IN: W/VE: RS(T) and state or province; DX: RS(T)
Work stations: Once per band per mode
QSO Points: 1 point per phone QSO; 2 points per CW QSO
Bonus: 50 points for at least one QSO with Bison Stampede special event station, W9UUU (once)
Multipliers: IN Stations: Each IN county, state, province once per mode; non-IN Stations: Each IN county once per mode
Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults) and bonus points
Submit logs by: 15 June 2010
E-mail logs to: inqp[at]hdxcc[dot]org
Mail logs to: HDXCC, c/o Mike Goode, N9NS, 10340 Broadway, Indianapolis, IN 46280-1344, USA
Find rules at:
http://www.hdxcc.org/inqp/rules.html

New England QSO Party
20:00 UTC 1 May to 05:00 UTC 2 May and 13:00 - 24:00 UTC 2 May
Mode: Phone, CW/Digital
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m
Classes: Single Op – QRP, Low or High; Multi-Single; Mobile Single Op – QRP, Low or High; Mobile Multi-Single
Max power: HP: >150 watts; LP: 150 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT: RS(T), county and state; non-NE: RS(T), state, province or "DX"
Work stations: Once per band per mode per county

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QSO Points: 1 point per phone QSO; 2 points per CW/digital QSO
Multipliers: NE Stations: Each state, province, DXCC country once; non-NE Stations: Each NE county once
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 1 June 2010
E-mail logs to: logs[at]neqp[dot]org
Mail logs to: NEQP, PO Box 3005, Framingham, MA 01705-3005, USA
Find rules at:
http://www.neqp.org/rules.html

ARI International DX Contest
20:00 UTC 1 May to 19:59 UTC 2 May
Mode: Phone, CW, RTTY
Bands: 160 (no RTTY), 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m
Classes: Single Op CW; Single Op Phone; Single Op RTTY; Single Op Mixed; Multi-Single; SWL
Exchange: I: RS(T) and 2-letter province; non-I: RS(T) and serial no
Work stations: Once per mode per band
QSO Points: 0 points per QSO with same country; 1 point per QSO with different country same continent; 3 points per QSO with different continent; 10 points per QSO with I/IS0 stations
Multipliers: Each Italian province once per band; Each DXCC country once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 1 June 2010
E-mail logs to: aricontest[at]kkn[dot]net
Mail logs to: ARI Contest Manager, c/o ARI, Via Scarlatti 31, 20124 Milano, Italy
Find rules at:
http://www.associazioneradioamatoritaliani.it/images/stories/filespdf/ARIDX2009rules.pdf

RSGB 80 m SSB Club Championship
19:00 - 20:30 UTC 3 May
Mode: SSB
Bands: 80 m Only
Classes: (none)
Exchange: RS and serial no

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: (see rules)
Submit logs by: 10 May 2010
Upload log at:
http://www.vhfcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2010/r80mcc.shtml

ARS Spartan Sprint
01:00 - 03:00 UTC 4 May
Mode: CW
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m
Classes: Skinny; Tubby
Max power: 5 watts
Exchange: RST, state, province or country and power
Work stations: Once per band
Submit logs by: 6 May 2010
E-mail logs to:
spartansprint[at]yahoo[dot]com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://adventure-radio.org/wiki/index.php?title=Spartan_Sprint_Rules

MIE 33 Contest
11:00 – 15:00 UTC 4 May and 23:00 UTC 4 May to 03:00 UTC 5 May
Mode: CW, Phone
Bands: All, except WARC
Classes: Single Op – CW or mixed; Single Op Single Band – CW or mixed; Multi-Multi; SWL
Exchange: Mie: RS(T), age and "ME"; non-Mie JA: RS(T), age and "MEJ"; non-Mie non-JA: RS(T) and age
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: Mie and non-Mie JA: 1 point per QSO; non-Mie non-JA: 1 point per QSO with Mie or non-Mie JA
Multipliers: Each age once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 31 May 2010

"In the arena of human life, the honours and rewards fall to those who show their good qualities in action." Aristotle

E-mail logs to: je2mde[at]jarl[dot]com
Mail logs to: JARL Mie Branch, c/o H. Masuda, 750-30 Kanonjicho, Tsu, Mie 514-0062, Japan

Find rules at:
http://www.ztv.ne.jp/isoda/33/annual/33/33rule-e.html

Next Week's Contests

ARS Spartan Sprint, 01:00 - 03:00 UTC 4 May
MIE 33 Contest, 11:00 - 15:00 UTC 4 May and 23:00 UTC 4 May to 03:00 UTC 5 May
NCCC Sprint Ladder, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 7 May
VK/Trans-Tasman 80 m Phone Contest, 08:00 - 14:00 UTC 8 May
EUCW Fraternizing CW QSO Party, 10:00 - 12:00 UTC 8 May and 18:00 - 20:00 UTC 9 May
CQ-M International DX Contest, 12:00 UTC 8 May to 11:59 UTC 9 May
VOLTA WW RTTY Contest, 12:00 UTC 8 May to 12:00 UTC 9 May
Portuguese Navy Day Contest, 15:00 UTC 8 May to 15:00 UTC 9 May
Nevada Mustang Roundup, 17:00 UTC 8 May to 17:00 UTC 9 May
FISTS Spring Sprint, 17:00 - 21:00 UTC 8 May
50 MHz Spring Sprint, 23:00 8 May to 03:00 UTC 9 May
SKCC Weekend Sprint, 00:00 - 24:00 UTC 9 May

This week in History

The week starting Monday 26 April 2010

1770 - Captain James Cook lands at Botany Bay, Australia.
1789 - Mutiny on the "Bounty" occurred and the ship sailed to Pitcairn Island
1791 - Samuel Morse born in Charlestown, Mass. USA
1813 - Patent for rubber was given to JF Hummel of Philadelphia, PA., USA
1865 - SS Sultana exploded leaving 1 450 – 2 000 people dead. Worst shipping disaster in US history
1879 - Electric arc lights used for the first time in Cleveland, Ohio, USA
1884 - Lismore's first telephone from the Royal Hotel to the Post Office
1900 - Marconi Patent 7777 for tuned coupled circuits
1904 - Hulsemeyer, Germany, patents the first 'radar' system.
1986 - At 01:23 Ukraine time, the Chernobyl atomic power station exploded

Items used with acknowledgement to The ARRL Letter, Amateur Radio Newsline, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Bulletin, ARRL DX News, WIA-News, the RSGB News, Maurice, F5NQL, Southgate ARC and Pete's DX Newsdesk.

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